

cannot tax the American people into economic prosperity nor can it raise enough revenue to balance the budget if it continues to spend nearly \$4 trillion a year.

Adam Michel, Policy Analyst in the Thomas A. Roe Institute at The Heritage Foundation explains:

“Holding pro-growth tax reform hostage over the deficit unwittingly makes fiscally responsible spending reforms harder. The deficit cannot be eliminated with tax increases. The notion that we can tax our way out of trouble denies the fundamental problem: The deficit is driven by uncontrolled spending. Tax reform that grows the economy can also ease the burden of paying down the debt. Robust economic growth is a necessary component of managing our debt. Pro-growth tax reform that allows for a larger and more robust economy means our debt relative to our output shrinks and makes the necessary spending reforms easier.”

Due to the self-imposed \$1.5 trillion deficit tax cut box Senate Republicans elected to put themselves in, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is not as robust as tax reform should be under a unified Republican government, but it certainly is what President Reagan would call “half a loaf.” While Congress cannot tax the country into prosperity, it can and should deliver meaningful tax reform that spurs sustainable, long-term economic growth. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is a strong step toward that end. The time for pro-growth tax reform is now.

*** Heritage Action supports the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and will include it as a key vote on our legislative scorecard. ***

IN RECOGNITION OF THE VICTIMS OF CYBER ABUSE

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Kati Milberg-Pavek in recognition of and in shared grief for the indefensible cyber abuse she faced following the deaths of her daughter and two nieces: Clara Diana Pavek, Lydia Marie Milberg and Laynie Jo Amos. On December 12, 2013, a terrible tragedy took the lives of three wonderful children. I was further saddened and disturbed by the unprovoked comments and harassment that the victims and their families subsequently faced on social media, as well as local news outlets and publications.

As First Lady to the United States of America, Melania Trump has declared a campaign against cyber-bullying and reckless abuse, and like her I rise to condemn the hatred by these reckless individuals. Though my words can never reverse the awful heartbreak Ms. Milberg-Pavek and her family have suffered, I hope that by speaking out against victims' abuse, we can encourage those in control of online platforms to play a more active role in monitoring these hateful attacks, especially when innocent children are involved. No one should have to endure these types of spiteful on-line comments in the wake of a loss again, and I stand with those who actively seek to provide solutions for this growing problem. My deepest sympathies are with Ms. Milberg-Pavek and her family.

HONORING MR. JOHN F.
TRENTACOSTA

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Trentacosta upon his retirement as President and CEO of Newtown Savings Bank in Newtown, Connecticut. For the past nineteen years, John has provided experienced and insightful leadership at Newtown Savings Bank, and his contributions have been crucial to guiding the institution through both successful and challenging economies.

John is a native of Bronx, New York, and completed his undergraduate degree at Manhattan College before going on to earn his Master of Business Administration at Iona College. He began working in finance in New York before moving with his wife Linda to Connecticut in 1988. Throughout his long and successful career in the financial industry, John has served in a number of leadership roles, such as Chief Financial Officer, for a variety of institutions. Following a decade of working at the Bank of New Haven, John joined Newtown Savings Bank in 1998, and became President in 2003 and CEO in 2009. His experience and leadership have been instrumental in continuing the organization's success for the future.

In addition to his successful career, John has shared his time and expertise with a number of community and professional organizations in Connecticut. He currently serves on the Western Connecticut State University Foundation Board, and has previously been Director of Habitat for Humanity of New Haven and Chairperson of the Newtown Rotary Golf Fundraiser Event. John has also served as a board member of the Connecticut Society of CPA's Educational Trust Fund, a member of the Connecticut Community Bankers Association's Executive Committee, and a member of the Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce board.

Mr. Speaker, in his nineteen years of leadership at Newtown Savings Bank, John Trentacosta has been a successful leader in Connecticut's financial services industry, and he has also been a true partner to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

DOT MILLER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dot Miller for being honored as a “7Everyday Hero” by KMGH Channel 7 for her outstanding service to the community.

Dot is the former President of the Arvada Chamber of Commerce. During her leadership the Chamber grew from 450 members to more than 700 members. During that time, she also helped educate Arvada businesses and develop future leaders by exposing students to the workforce.

In 2011, Dot created the Jefferson County Business Education Alliance (JCBEA) which

partners business owners and students with educational opportunities such as internships and job shadowing opportunities. One of the signature programs of the JCBEA is the Career Readiness Program which brings together teachers, administrators and business leaders in the community to help students in the classroom. This program is a course made up of six modules where students learn various skills ranging from work ethic and customer service to financial responsibility. In addition, students learn interview skills and how to write resumes. The JCBEA also provides workforce-ready training by conducting mock interviews between students and business leaders in the community.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dot Miller for receiving this well-deserved honor as a “7Everyday Hero”. Her positive impact on the community will be felt for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 18, 2017, I missed the following votes and was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 685, YEA on Roll Call No. 686, and YEA on Roll Call No. 687.

TRIBUTE TO DONNA AND RON MARTIN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donna and Ron Martin of Greenfield, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on October 28, 2017.

Donna and Ron's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them nothing but the best.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1, TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters from Ford Motor Company, MetLife, Coalition Letter, Americans for